



LIVE WELL
SAN DIEGO

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD ACTION ITEM - JUNE 7, 2018

ALLOCATE UP TO \$10 MILLION TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING PROGRAM FOR PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), provides funding for counties to address a broad continuum of prevention, early intervention and service needs, and the necessary infrastructure, technology and training elements to effectively support the public mental health system.

Funding from one component of the MHSA, Community Services and Supports (CSS), may be used to provide housing for adults, older adults, and transition age youth with serious mental illness (SMI), children with severe emotional disturbance (SED), and their families, who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and receive MHSA-funded services. MHSA housing program continues to transform the mental health system by providing consumers housing and support services to enable them to live more independently. The program establishes partnerships at the local level, resulting in housing development that reflects local priorities while expanding safe, affordable housing options for individuals with SMI or SED and their families. The funds are utilized for capital loans for the development, acquisition, construction and/or rehabilitation of permanent supportive housing. Funding may also be used to provide operating subsidies.

The California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) operates the Local Government Special Needs Housing Program (SNHP) on behalf of jurisdictions throughout California. As required by the SNHP, counties are required to receive Board of Supervisors authorization for the assignment of new SNHP funds to CalHFA.

This recommended action requests the Board of Supervisors to approve the transfer of up to an additional \$10 million to CalHFA for the SNHP to develop new permanent supportive housing units. The MHSA funds will be reflected in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19 MHSA Annual Update of the MHSA Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan for FYs 2017-18 through 2019-20, which will be presented to the Board in FY 2018-19 following the 30-day public comment period.

It is, THEREFORE, staff's recommendation that your Board support the recommendations for the transfer of up to an additional \$10 million to CalHFA for the SNHP to develop new permanent supportive housing units.